

Bribery charges detailed

DA took \$4,000,

U.S. claims

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EDITORS NOTE: The following story was gathered and compiled by States-Item staffers Lanny Thomas, Ed Lepoma, Allan Katz and Bill Rainey.

The government will prove that Dist. Atty. Jim Garrison accepted four bribes of \$1,000 each from pinball interests in 1971, a prosecutor told the jury today in a federal bribery trial here.

U.S. Atty. Gerald J. Gallinhouse said the prosecution also will show that Garrison conspired with two former high police officers to protect illegal pinball gambling.

Gallinhouse made his opening remarks in the second day of the trial of Garrison and pinball figures Robert Nims and John Armas Callery. They are charged with conspiracy to obstruct law enforcement by giving and taking bribes to protect pinball gambling.

ORIGINALLY, 10 men were indicted on the charge but three of them have pleaded guilty and four were granted separate trials.

Gallinhouse said he will show that all 10 were part of the conspiracy and that they tried to avoid personal contact so the conspiracy would not be detected.

Gallinhouse has indicated that all those who have pleaded guilty or who have been severed from the case will testify in the trial of Garrison, Nims and Callery. Those who have pleaded guilty are Louis M. Boasberg, Frederick A. Soule and John Elms Jr. Granted separate trials were Robert N. Frey, John Elmo Pierce, Lawrence A. Lagarde and Harry Marks Jr.

Gallinhouse said the prosecution will show that Nims, Boasberg, Elms and Lagarde paid the bribe money and that Callery, Marks and Pierce were the collection and delivery men.

HE SAID the evidence will show that Pershing O. Gervais, a former investigator in Garrison's office, received substantial amounts of money through Callery and Marks and delivered most of the money to Garrison and Soule.

He said Soule, an investigator in Garrison's office when the 10 were arrested in 1971 and a former police vice squad commander, would pass some of the money on to Frey, who was vice squad commander at the time of the arrests.

He said the evidence will show that Soule and Frey "did cause a relatively small number of arrests" to give the impression the anti-gambling laws were being enforced and to get more money out of the pinball dealers. However, he said, he will show that none

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of the those arrested ever was prosecuted.

Gallinhouse said he will use taped conversations of the defendants discussing pinball gambling and bribes. Presumably these are tapes obtained by Gervais as a government undercover agent prior to the arrests.

GALLINGHOUSE said Garrison received \$1,000 bribes Feb. 25, March 9, May 28 and June 29, 1971.

The opening arguments were made before a 9-man, 3-woman jury in the court of U.S. District Judge Herbert W. Christenberry.

The jury, seated yesterday, includes only one New Orleans resident. That juror is Delores W. Newton of 8332 Green St., a telephone repairman for Western Electric. Three other jurors are from the metropolitan area, but Mrs. Newton is the only one from the city.

Here is the remaining jury lineup:

—Delbert J. Schenayder, LaPlace, an Avondale Shipyard welder.

—Leon C. Morgan, 2216 Volpe Drive, Chalmette, an automobile mechanic.

—William M. Grover, Reserve, truck driver.

—Dewey L. LeLeune, Hammond, electrician.

—Gerard A. Chutz, 2129 Corinne Ave., Chalmette, employee of Charity Hospital.

—Raoul Trahan, Des Allemands, bridge tender.

—Bruce Fussell, Roseland, millwright.

—Mrs. Mary Lou Durbin, New Sarpy, postal worker.

—Moise S. Crochet, Thibodaux, school custodian.

—Jessie P. Villenarette, 3001 Hero Drive, Gretna, a pipeline gauger for Chevron Oil Co.

—Mrs. Eula P. Fleming, Pearl River, housewife.

THE TWO alternates who will sit in the courtroom throughout the trial and serve in the event one of the jurors is unable to continue are Audrey M. Chouest, 315 Fifth St., Westwego, a packer with Frilo-Lay, and Mrs. Outla S. Jourdan, a legal secretary from Bush, La.

The jury was selected from a venire of 100 persons from the 13 parishes of the Eastern District of Louisiana.

After several prospective jurors were excused yesterday for hardship and other reasons, 36 names were drawn, and from that list the jury was chosen.

Defense attorneys were allowed 15 challenges—dismissal of prospective jurors for one reason or another—and the government was allowed nine.

AMONG PROSPECTIVE jurors excused by Christenberry was an agent of the Internal Revenue Service and a man who said he had worked in campaigns of Garrison's political opponents. Two men who said they knew two pinball dealers who were indicted with Garrison were not selected for jury duty.

Christenberry spent nearly two hours yesterday questioning prospective jurors who said they had either read or heard about the case. One man was excused for having a "fixed opinion." Most of the prospective jurors said they had heard about the case but had formed no opinion.

When Christenberry asked them if they had heard about the case, one man stood up and said, "Would you believe that I don't even know who Mr. Jim Garrison is?"

A Metairie woman said she did not know what office Garrison held.